

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.

PC17CZ 03/00019

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C04B41/87

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 100 18 458 A (ERLUS BAUSTOFFWERKE) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) claims	1-14
A	DE 199 47 524 A (ERLUS BAUSTOFFWERKE) 1 February 2001 (2001-02-01) claims	1-14
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1999, no. 05, 31 May 1999 (1999-05-31) & JP 11 028784 A (TOTO LTD), 2 February 1999 (1999-02-02) abstract	1-14

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. ☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *&* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

28/10/2003

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/CZ 03/00019

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1996, no. 11, 29 November 1996 (1996-11-29) & JP 08 175887 A (TOTO LTD), 9 July 1996 (1996-07-09) abstract</p>	1-14

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No.
PCT/CZ 03/00019

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 1-14 (in part)
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report... covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Continuation of Box I.2

Claims Nos.: 1-14 (in part)

Present claims 1-14. relate to an extremely large number of possible methods. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the methods claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claim 1, which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to a process for manufacturing photocatalytic, antibacterial, selfcleaning and/or sanitising surfaces on ceramic tiles or other ceramic products by solid state deposition, wherein ultrafine ceramic powders are cold deposited directly onto melted or partially melted ceramic surfaces. Claims 2-14 were searched only insofar as they are limited to processes according to claim 1, i.e. as dependent from claim 1.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/CZ 03/00019

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 10018458	A	18-10-2001	DE 10018458 A1	18-10-2001
			WO 0179141 A1	25-10-2001
DE 19947524	A	01-02-2001	DE 19947524 A1	01-02-2001
			AT 235442 T	15-04-2003
			CZ 20002725 A3	16-01-2002
			DE 50001530 D1	30-04-2003
			DK 1072572 T3	14-07-2003
			EP 1072572 A1	31-01-2001
JP 11028784	A	02-02-1999	JP 3063735 B2	12-07-2000
JP 08175887	A	09-07-1996	NONE	

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